

# Laru language

**Laru** (Laro, also Shen or Sengwe<sup>[4]</sup>) is a minor Kainji language of Nigeria. It has one dialect: Cuba (Shuba). Speakers are shifting to Busa.

## Dialects

There are three dialects of Shen, spoken in the following villages.<sup>[5]</sup>

- Kárábàndéí and Sànsání
- Sàːgúnú4, Sʷàfí, Lúmːà, and Barkatai
- Mòːnːáí, Sánkʷà, and Màláːlé

The major villages, ordered from largest to smallest, are Sàːgúnú, Kárábàndéí, Sʷàfí, Lúmːà, and Mòːnːáí. There are fewer than 4,000 speakers.

*Ethnologue* (22nd ed.) lists Laru villages as Karabonde, Leshigbe, Luma, Monnai, Sansanni, and Shagunu.

## References

1. Laru (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/lan/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

Cuba (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/cbq/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)

2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Laru (Nigeria)" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/laru1238>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

3. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Cuba" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/cuba1236>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.

4. McGill, Stuart. 2012. The Kainji languages. Ms, School of Oriental and African Studies, London, 30 August 2012.

5. Blench, Roger (2012). "The Kainji languages of northwestern and central Nigeria" (<http://www.rogerblench.info/Language/Niger-Congo/BC/Kainji/General/Kainji%20language%20overview.pdf>) (PDF). Cambridge: Kay Williamson Educational Foundation.

| Laru            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Shen</i>     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Native to       | Nigeria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Region          | Niger State                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Native speakers | (6,000 cited 1995–2014) <sup>[1]</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Language family | Niger–Congo <div>▪ Atlantic–Congo<div>▪ Benue–Congo<div>▪ Kainji<div>▪ Kainji Lake?<div>▪ <b>Laru</b></div></div></div></div></div>                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Dialects        | Laru (Shen) <div></div> Cuba (Shuba)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Language codes  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| ISO 639-3       | Either: <div>lan – Laru</div> cbq – Cuba                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Glottolog       | laru1238 ( <a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/laru1238">http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/laru1238</a> ) Laru/Shen <sup>[2]</sup> <div>cuba1236 (<a href="http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/cuba1236">http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/cuba1236</a>)</div> Cuba/Shuba <sup>[3]</sup> |

| Laru     |          |
|----------|----------|
| Person   | Shen     |
| Language | Shen gwe |

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